

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 278  
By Pleasant

A RESOLUTION to recognize Rex Waits on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Rex Waits is one such estimable individual who has served with distinction for nearly thirty years with Shelby County Government; on April 15, 2003, he will begin a well-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Millington High School, Mr. Waits excelled in every sport as a youth and established himself as a leader among his peers; and

WHEREAS, on June 7th, 1974, Mr. Waits commenced employment with the Government of Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, serving as the Administrator of Fleet Services for the county, Rex Waits has worked assiduously to improve the lives of his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Waits is an active and important part of his community and his profession, participating in numerous civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, Rex Waits has contributed his time and numerous talents to many different charitable organizations, including Feed the Need, Angel Tree, United Way and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's Golf Tournament; his family also served as a host family for several U.S. Olympic baseball team members; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Waits has also been a valuable member of the Millington Jaycees, the Lions Club, the Shelby County Activity Board (serving as Chairman and Co-Chairman), the Millington Youth Recreation Program, the Millington High School Booster Club, the Millington Community Day Committee (serving as a Charter Member and as Chairman) and the Shelby County Credit Union; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Waits has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Rex Waits has been honored with the Doc Gallaher Award from Shelby County, an Award for Loyalty to the Youth from the City of Millington, the Man of the Year Award from the Cotton Country Festival, the Partners in Education Award from the Shelby County School Board and the Team USA Award for his support of the 1988-1994 Olympic Gold Medalist U.S. Baseball Team; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Mr. Waits is most grateful to share both love and companionship with his wife of 45 years, Sue DeLashmit, and their children, Terry and his wife, Paula Fultz Waits, Jeff and his wife, Paula Gentry Waits, Bailey and his wife, Kim Buchannan Waits and Tess and her husband, Danny Brown; and

WHEREAS, Rex Waits is also blessed with ten grandchildren: Brandy, Ashley, Jennifer, Colin, Benjamin, Allen, Hunter and Joshua Waits and Sydney and Clayton Brown; the family is

also anxiously awaiting the arrival of the youngest Waits, Rex Waits' first great-grandchild, Tyler Austin Waits; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Waits evinces his devout religious faith as a Member and Ordained Deacon of the First Baptist Church of Millington; and

WHEREAS, Rex Waits exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we thank Rex Waits for his many years of astute service to the people of Shelby County and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.